

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 080239

41

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INR-07 INRE-00 EB-07 USIE-00 PA-01 /047 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN/LCKILDAY:RMC

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN: DAVID LAZAR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY QUITO NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BBAK HO

SUBJECT: JOURNAL STORY ON UB'S SECRET PAYMENTS

1. WALL STREET JOURNAL TODAY PUBLISHED UNITED BRANDS STORY UNDER TITLE OF ,BUYING FAVOR--UB PAID BRIBE OF 1.25 MILLION DOLLARS TO HONDURAN OFFICIAL., ARTICLE IS, IN MOST RESPECTS, SUBSTANTIALLY ACCURATE SO FAR AS WE ARE AWARE. HOWEVER, IT DOES CONTAIN ONE PATENTLY FALSE AND POTENTIALLY TROUBLESOME ALLEGATION WHICH WE WILL UNDERTAKE TO CLARIFY AT NOON PRESS BRIEFING.

2. FYI: FALSE ALLEGATION READS AS FOLLOWS: ,THE SEC INVESTIGATION, HOWEVER, INTENSIFIED WHEN THE AGENCY RECEIVED INFORMATION PASSED ON TO IT BY THE STATE DEPT. ACCORDING TO A TOP-LEVEL STATE DEPT. OFFICER, THE U.S. EMBASSY IN TEGUCIGALPA HAD DEVELOPED SOME INFORMATION REGARDING PAY-OFFS BY UNITED BRANDS ALLEGEDLY TO THE PRESIDENT OF HON-
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PAGE 02 STATE 080239

DURAS. THE EMBASSY PASSED THIS INFORMATION ALONG TO

WASHINGTON, WHICH INTURN PASSED IT ON TO THE SEC.' KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE080239
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RMC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750123-0502
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750466/aaaacixq.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOURNAL STORY ON UB'S SECRET PAYMENTS
TAGS: BBAK, HO
To: TEGUCIGALPA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006